



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Washington, D.C. 20531

May 25, 2007

Re: Consultation on Attorney General Guidelines for Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act

Dear

Pursuant to Executive Order 13175 and consistent with President Bush's Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, dated September 23, 2004, the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs invites you to participate in a consultation process regarding proposed National Guidelines for the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), commonly known as the "Adam Walsh Act." As discussed below, the consultation process will consist of both face-to-face gatherings and the opportunity for written submissions. Please find enclosed a copy of the proposed guidelines for your review. Electronic copies may be obtained at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/smart/guidelines.htm>.

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs has scheduled two national tribal gatherings in June and July at which we will engage in face-to-face consultation events with tribal leaders. The first consultation event is scheduled for the morning of June 4, 2007, at the Little Creek Hotel and Casino in Shelton, Washington. The second consultation event is scheduled for July 31, 2007, at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel, in Phoenix, Arizona. Please consult the Tribal Justice and Safety in Indian Country Web site, <http://www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov/> on the arrangements for these events and any updates. These events are in addition to two previous Tribal Training and Technical Assistance sessions (December 2006 and March 2007) where tribal leaders' opinions on the Adam Walsh Act were solicited.

In addition, you are welcome to submit written comments on the proposed guidelines through August 1, 2007. The most expedient means for providing comments is via email at, GetSMART@usdoj.gov. Please note that the email address is set up to accept files in Word, WordPerfect, or PDF. As an alternative, your comments may be mailed to:

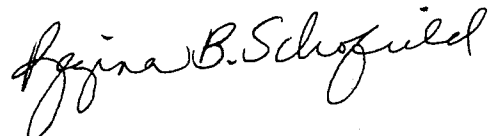
Leslie A. Hagen
SMART Office/OJP
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Suite 8241
Washington DC 20531

Also, consistent with government-to-government relations, please submit a single set of comments through the appropriate, designated tribal leader, and indicate that the comments represent the official views of your government.

As a reminder, tribes have until July 27, 2007, to make an affirmative election to function as a registration jurisdiction, and if no choice is made by that date the responsibility is automatically delegated to the state(s).¹ The election to become a SORNA registration jurisdiction must be made "by resolution or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable governmental body." A dated copy of the resolution or enactment must be transmitted to Ms. Hagen in the SMART Office by July 27, 2007.

Thank you for working with the Department of Justice on this important matter and we welcome hearing your views.

Sincerely,



Regina B. Schofield
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

¹ This does not apply to tribes subject to the law enforcement jurisdiction of a state under 18 U.S.C. § 1162, for whom an automatic delegation to the state is imputed.